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17 Meadow Lane #10 Highland Heights, KY 41076 January 7, 2003

Malla Esta

Rosemary Center, General Counsel Kentucky Registry of Election Finance 140 Walnut Street Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Ms. Center:

Sonny Landham and I have formed a slate in this year's gubernatorial election and have registered a campaign committee with the Registry. Our intention when we registered was to run in the Republican primary, but we have decided to run as an independent slate instead. We request that the Registry treat our current campaign committee as a primary committee under KRS 121 and KRS 121A until the primary election on May 20.

As independent candidates, we cannot qualify to get on the general election ballot until we get 5,000 signatures on a petition, just as a major party candidate cannot qualify to get on the general election ballot until winning the primary. This petition process for us is analogous to the primary in which the major party candidates run.

In addition, if we are required to form a general election campaign committee now, then the major party candidates will be able to accept up to \$2,000 in contributions from each of their donors while we could accept only \$1,000 from ours. This is inequitable and will put us at a competitive disadvantage. We are asking for equal treatment. Campaign finance laws that favor one slate over another undermine the democracy that we hold so dear and act to limit the choice of the voters.

We also request that we be permitted to transfer our primary committee's remaining funds and campaign debts to our general election committee, when it is formed, in accordance with KRS 121.180(10). We have elected to reject transfers from the election campaign fund.

Thank you for considering our requests.

Sincerely,

Roger Thoney

Candidate for Lt. Governor